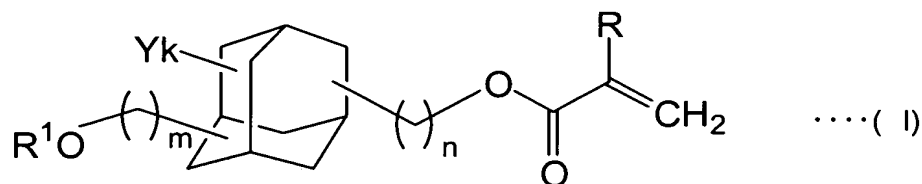


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): An adamantane derivative, characterized by comprising a structure represented by a general formula (I):

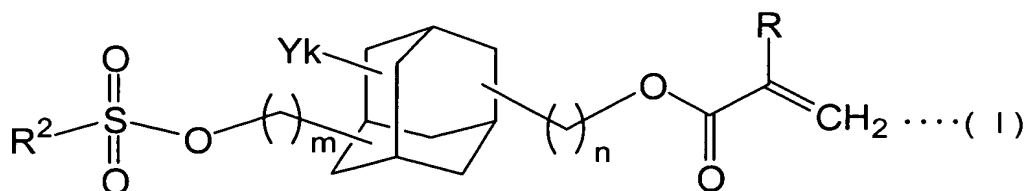


where R represents a hydrogen atom, a methyl group, or a CF_3 group, Ys each represent an alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, a halogen atom, or a hydroxyl group, or two Ys are coupled to form $=O$, and multiple Ys may be identical to or different from each other, R^1 represents an alkyl group or a cycloalkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, and may contain a hetero atom and/or a nitrile group in part of its structure, k represents an integer of 0 to 14, and m and n each independently represent an integer of 0 to 4.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): [[An]] The adamantane derivative according to claim 1, wherein a substituent except Ys is present at a bridge head position.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): [[An]] The adamantane derivative according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein R^1 represents a group having tertiary carbon adjacent to O.

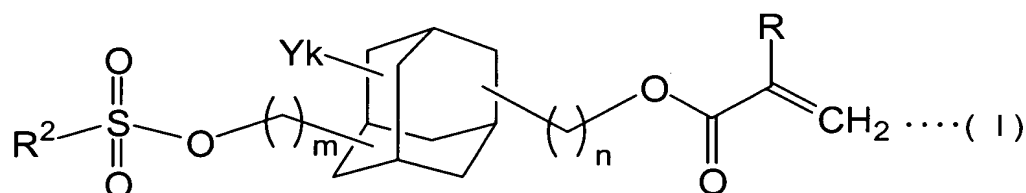
Claim 4 (Original): An adamantane derivative, characterized by comprising a structure represented by a general formula (II):



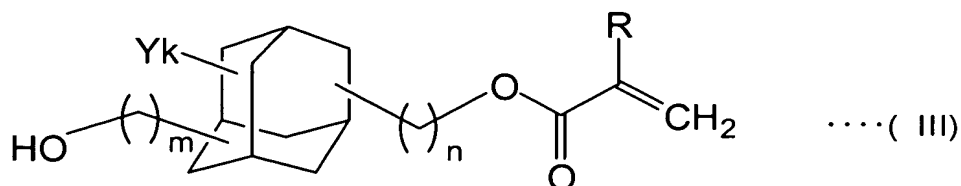
where R represents a hydrogen atom, a methyl group, or a CF₃ group, R² represents an alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, a phenyl group, an alkylphenyl group, or a CF₃ group, Ys each represent an alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, a halogen atom, or a hydroxyl group, or two Ys are coupled to form = O, and multiple Ys may be identical to or different from each other, k represents an integer of 0 to 14, and m and n each independently represent an integer of 0 to 4.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): [[An]] The adamantane derivative according to claim 4, wherein R² represents a methyl group.

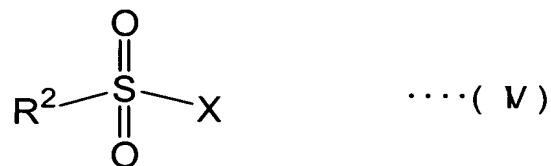
Claim 6 (Original): A process for producing an adamantane derivative having a structure represented by the general formula (II):



where R represents a hydrogen atom, a methyl group, or a CF₃ group, R² represents an alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, a phenyl group, an alkylphenyl group, or a CF₃ group, Ys each represent an alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, a halogen atom, or a hydroxyl group, or two Ys are coupled to form = O, and multiple Ys may be identical to or different from each other, k represents an integer of 0 to 14, and m and n each independently represent an integer of 0 to 4, the process being characterized by comprising reacting an alcohol form of an adamantane compound represented by a general formula (III):



where R, Ys, k, m, and n each have the same meaning as that described above, with a sulfonyl compound represented by a general formula (IV):



where R² represents an alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, a phenyl group, an alkylphenyl group, or a CF₃ group, and X represents a hydroxyl group or a halogen atom.

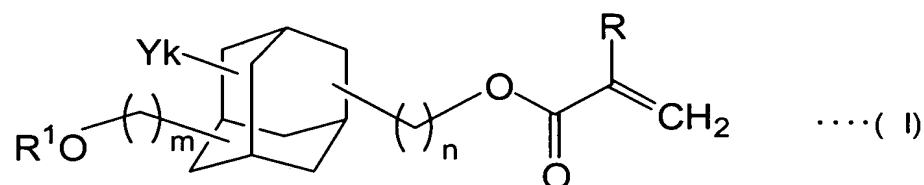
Claim 7 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The process for producing an adamantane derivative according to claim 6, wherein the alcohol form of the adamantane compound represented by the general formula (III) and the sulfonyl compound represented by the general formula (IV) are reacted with each other in an organic solvent having a dielectric constant at 20°C of 8 or less.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The process for producing an adamantane derivative according to claim 6 [[or 7]], wherein the sulfonyl compound represented by the general formula (IV) comprises methanesulfonyl halide.

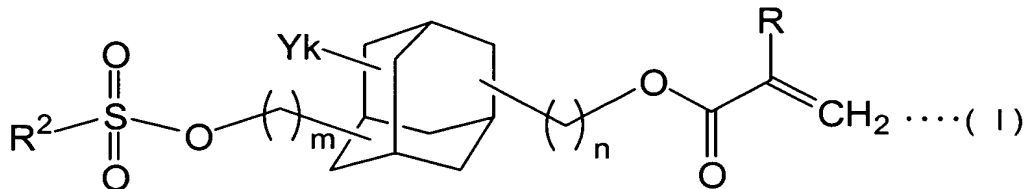
Claim 9 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The process for producing an adamantane derivative according to ~~any one of claims 6 to 8~~ claim 6, wherein, after the alcohol form of the adamantane compound represented by the general formula (III) and the sulfonyl compound represented by the general formula (IV) have been reacted with each other, a reaction product is separated from a liquid after completion of the reaction, a poor solvent for a by-product polymer in the reaction product is added to the reaction product, and a precipitate of the by-product polymer to be produced is removed.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The process for producing an adamantane derivative according to claim 9, wherein the poor solvent for the by-product polymer comprises methanol.

Claim 11 (Original): A process for producing an adamantane derivative represented by the general formula (I):



where R represents a hydrogen atom, a methyl group, or a CF_3 group, Ys each represent an alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, a halogen atom, or a hydroxyl group, or two Ys are coupled to form $=O$, and multiple Ys may be identical to or different from each other, R^1 represents an alkyl group or a cycloalkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, and may contain a hetero atom and/or a nitrile group in part of its structure, k represents an integer of 0 to 14, and m and n each independently represent an integer of 0 to 4, the process being characterized by comprising reacting an adamantane derivative represented by the general formula (II):



where R^2 represents an alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, a phenyl group, an alkylphenyl group, or a CF_3 group, R, Ys, k, m, and n each have the same meaning as that described above, with an alcohol.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The process for producing an adamantane derivative according to claim 11, wherein 3-methanesulfonyloxy-1-adamantyl (meth)acrylate is reacted with the alcohol.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The process for producing an adamantane derivative according to claim 11 [[or 12]], wherein the alcohol comprises a tertiary alcohol.